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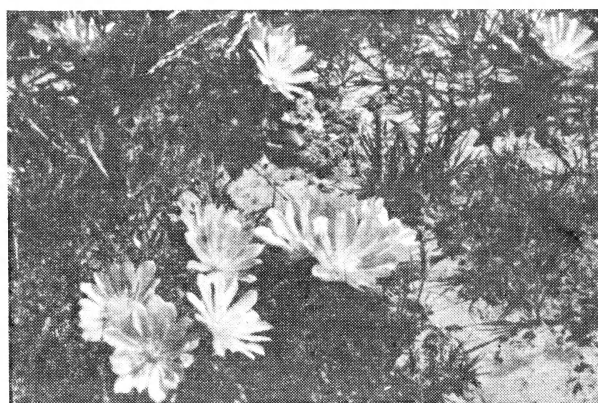
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U. S. Department of Agriculture

# BEAUTIFUL NATIVE PLANTS

FROM THE  
HIGH PLAINS, BADLANDS  
AND BLACK HILLS

1942



## **LEWISIA REDIVIVA, GREAT PLAINS NATIVE**

The glorious blossoms here pictured were photographed "in the wild," on the northeastern Wyoming plains, in mid-June, flowering just well begun. Their color, rich carmine rose pink. Leaves at that date had practically disappeared and there remained the clustered buds in their papery wrappings and those unsurpassed blossoms, two to nearly three inches wide, coming directly from the ground.

Strangely, this plant of outstanding beauty and mysterious habits, long known in the Rockies and westward, has escaped the botanical recorders in its plains reaches. Plants of this stock are now offered. Doubtless they have some special adaptation, to be proven by further observation. Meantime we may accept the usual recommendation to grow them in a well drained medium in sun.

## **CLAUDE A. BARR**

**PRAIRIE GEM RANCH**

**Smithwick, South Dakota**

**FOREWORD:** Flowering plants—most notable are the perennials—of quiet, or thrilling beauty dwell on the Great Plains, "out where the West begins." Wild flowers? Yes, but averaging quite different from the "woodlanders" we commonly think of in using that term. And their environments are vastly different.

Grasses form the dominant vegetation of the high prairies, and the flowers appear where the grass cover has in some way been abated, thinned out by leanness of soil, by stoniness, erosion or other factors. Thus they are by environment sun-lovers, rock plants, drought resistant, hardy, accustomed to—and so more or less demanding of—drainage, that is, room for fairly deep rooting without stagnant moisture.

A recommended "scree" for replacing soils that are too rich and moisture retentive is mixed from equal parts of ordinary soil, coarse sand, and fine gravel or rock chips, including some lime. This provides an excellent base for all Great Plains plants. The needs of certain plants may be met by adding a portion of richer soil, leafmold, or other humus.

The question of supplied moisture: infrequent wetting is the rule. Truthfully, rainfall on the plains is often too infrequent for best growth, so garden environment brings willing response and surprising performance and beauty.

**SERVICE:** High quality plants only are sent on your order. We do not substitute without permission. Our packing will please. In addition to culture suggested in this catalog, special advice is given when it may prove useful, or on request.

We will be pleased to attempt to supply or to refer to a source of native plants not listed.

Prices include prepaid delivery.

When price of one plant only is quoted usually three but not more can be furnished on many orders. When 3's and dozens are quoted, dozens and sometimes 100's can be furnished. Ask for quantity prices.

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## HARDY PERENNIALS

To many gardeners many Great Plains plants are new. But, thinking carefully, for relaxation, forgetfulness and that morale building "lift," what better than new plants, to admire, to master, to commune with? In addition we list for the first time *Asters nebraskensis* and *salicifolius*, *Callirhoe involucrata*, *Dalea aurea*, *Lewisia rediviva*, *Mirabilis multiflora*, *Pentstemons aridus* and *secundiflorus*, *Phloxes scleranthifolia* and "Little Cheyenne," and *Thalictrum venulosum*.

**Actinea (Tetraneuris) simplex** "About as lovely a rock plant as I ever saw." Narrow silvery leaves, small brilliant golden Gaillardias, 4 to 8" above, June and later. 25c; 3, 65c.

**Agastache anethiodora** Anise Hyssop. Delightfully fragrant tall herb, with spikes of purple blue continuously from late June. Rich shade. 50c.

**Anemone patens nutt. (Pulsatilla hirsutissima).** Large six-pointed stars of satiny lavender, bloom-

ing ahead of the European Pasque Flower, March-May. Drainage. 35c; 3, 90c; doz. \$3.50.

**Antennaria aprica** Pussy-toes, Ladies Tobacco. Broad little leaves of silvery olive in inch high evergreen mats, spreading slowly; pussy-toe flowers at 4". Gray white form, 20c; soft pink, 35c.

**A. campestris** Unusual pistillate form with white ray flowers. Leaves rich green, white below. 35c.

**A. microphylla** Tiny leaves of charming pattern, in bluish silver. White furry toes, 8". 35c.

**A. obovata** Larger scale aprica; grayish toes. 20c. These Antennarias are among the most valuable all season rock garden ground covers.

**Arenaria hookeri** Hooker Sandwort. Dense prickly cushions of vivid green, smothered in late June or July with white clustered blossoms. At its best in very rocky soil in sun. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

**Artemisia frigida** A low tufted feathery, silvery and fragrant Sage. Arching silvery spikes of tiny yellowish bells, August. 25c; 3, 65c.

**Asclepias pumila** An 8" Milkweed of close colony habit; abundant upright umbels of creamy white, mid-summer, on. Also a very rare light pink. Easily controlled. Either color, 25c; 3, 60c.

**Aster fendleri** A most charming low hardy Aster; 10" or so. Branching plant, covered in September with dainty cupped blossoms of lilac blue. Our personally chosen type. 50c; 3, \$1.10.

**A. kumleini** Prairie Gem Blue. One of the finest native Asters, a broad, 12" high sheet of blue and gold, September. 40c; 3, 90c.

**A. kumleini**, selected forms, lovely rose pink or lacy rayed silver blue, 15"; Sept.-Oct. 30c; 3, 75c.

**A. meritus** Rare dwarf Aster with special merit of July flowering; much admired pinkish violet in closely set corymb effect. 8 to 12". 35c; 3, 80c.

**A. nebraskensis** Handsome species with long drooping racemes of blue lavender, 30"; Sept. 50c.

**A. ptarmicoides** (*Unamia alba*) Cream centered and white rayed, long season beauty, beginning July. 12" or so. Long lasting cut flower. 30c; 3, 75c.

**A. salicifolius** Willow Aster. Splendid light lavender from the Black Hills. 24"; Aug. 50c.

**Golden Aster:** see *Chrysopsis* and *Sideranthus*.

**Tansy Aster:** see *Machaeranthera*.

**Astragalus goniatus** Festive bonnets of bright lavender decked with purple; June-August; 4 to 8". Appealing traveler, confine if need be. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

**A. gilviflorus** (*Orophaca caespitosa* — in *Hortus* Second clothing.) Tufted Milk-Vetch. Low cushion of silvery tri-part leaves, with a snow of stemless blossoms, April, May. Astonishing beauty for scree with gravel surface. 30c; 3, 75c.

**A. spatulatus** (*Homalobus caespitosus*, likewise.) A prickly, frosty cushion, its display of purple or violet Pea blossoms with white tipped wings, in May, is irresistible. Scree. 30c; 3, 80c.

**A. (Orophaca) tridactylus** A Rose by any other name—say, Red *Orophaca*. Like *gilviflorus* but delightful lavender rose. Rare. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

**Astragalus:** see also *Oxytropis*.

**Callirhoe involucrata** Poppy Mallow, Wine Cups. Deep glossy cups of intense purple red, leaves dark, dissected, from trailing stems as much as 24" long. Long summer season. 25c; 3, 65c.

**Campanula petiolata** Western Harebell. Lavender to blue purple, flaring bells, freely borne, June to September; 8 to 15". 30c; 3, 85c.

**Cerastium strictum** Low spreading mat of rich green and multitudinous white flowers, to 8"; May-July. Like a larger *C. arvense*. 25c; 3, 60c.

**Chrysopsis villosa** Golden Aster. Massed beauty in richest tone; Aug.-Sept.; 12". For best effect shear back to 4" in June. Select, 30c; 3, 75c.

**Clematis ligusticifolia** Clambering, or climbing to 20'; small white, intensely fragrant clustered blossoms in profusion, July, August, 40c.

**C. (Viorna) scotti** Leather-flower. Intriguing blue to purple nodding urns, glaucous foliage; 12" or so; May, June; silky seed plumes. 50c; 3, \$1.25.

**C. (Atragene) tenuiloba** Fairies' Bower. Distinct, charming, rare, and permanent in the affections are its large half-open, nodding purple blossoms, above finely cut leaves. 8 to 10"; May, June. Spreads slowly. Rich soil, light shade. 80c; 3, \$2.00.

**Dalea (Parosela) aurea** Rare, novel and exotic appearing plant of silvery green and airy light yellow, in Prairie Clover effect. Summer. 50c.

**D. enneandra** As distinct in character; blossoms of white and silver in slender swaying racemes, 24" or more up. Flower effect, June-August. 30c.

**Delphinium bicolor** Always attractive, singly or massed. Deep purple blue velvet blossoms in May and June; 12". Summer dormant. 30c; 3, 75c.

**Dodecatheon pauciflorum (vulgare—Hortus)** Brilliantly colored in rose and gold, this 4 to 10" Shooting Star is perhaps the most adaptable. Try it wherever you need color. 40c; doz. \$3.50.

**Echinacca angustifolia** Pink Coneflower. Wide rosy rays about a glossy mahogany cone. Strikingly different and beautiful. Foliage 5" high, blossoms 10 to 14". 30c; 3, 75c; doz. \$2.50.

**Erigeron caespitosus** Little Daisies of purest white, always welcome in my garden; 8 to 10"; July. 30c.

**E. canus** White to lavender Daisies, 8 to 10", with frosted foliage; June. Also beautiful. 30c.

**E. flagellaris** Whiplash Daisy. Abundant little white and gold blossoms, long season. Ground cover plant with runners. 25c; doz. \$1.00.

**E. glabellus** Daisies, lavender to white, several to the stem, 8 to 16". Glossy evergreen leaves. 30c.

**E. nematophyllus** A white and gold gem of May and June, but 5" high, the blossoms more than an inch wide, and abundant. Tuffet of leaves, 8" or wider. For scree. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

**Eriogonum flavum** A common name is Umbrella Plant. Beautiful all-season mats of green felted leaves, white below, a foot wide; large fuzzy umbels of soft yellow, June; 4 to 12". Scree. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

**Eurotia lanata** Winter Fat, White Sage. Interesting 16", shrubby plant of light gray tone. 35c.

**Gutierrezia sarothrae** Golden Dome. Hemispheres

of vivid green, to gold in September; 10 to 12". Source of Indians' broom straw. 35c; 3, 75c.

**Hedeoma camporum** Perennial Pennyroyal. Trim 8" rounded bushlets, flushed with pink lavender Mint blossoms, June, on. Finest fragrance. Makes a delicious tea. 35c; 3, 85c.

**Homalobus:** listed under **Astragalus**.

**Lathyrus incanus** Sand Pea. Three-quarter inch blossoms, clusters of two to seven, rose banner, pink to white wings; May; 4 to 10". Stems and leaves glaucous, somewhat downy.

**L. ornatus** is almost the same but glabrous, and is often brighter colored. These are spreaders worth controlling. Either, 30c; 3, 75c; doz. \$2.00.

**Lesquerella spatulata** Bladder-Pod. Dainty Crucifer, festive in brightest yellow, May-July. 4 or 5" high, spread 10". Beautiful gray green rosettes. A gem one must see. Scree. 35c; 3, 85c.

**Leucocrinum montanum** Sand Lily. Bountiful succession of stemless little Lilies, waxy white, gold stamened, fragrant, from a tuft of grassy leaves; April, May. Cover roots 2". 35c; 3, 85c; doz. \$3.00.

**Lewisia rediviva** Bitter-Root. See front cover. Well developed roots, every plant selected for full petalage and rich color. 50c; 3, \$1.10.

**Liatris ligulistylis** Blazing Star. Largest flower heads, an inch wide, 10 to 30 or 40, a lovely and showy clear purple; July; 18" and more. 40c; 3, \$1.

**L. punctata** Dwarf Gayfeather. Fluffy dense spikes of fine transparent purple; Aug. Foliage low, stems 8 to 14" in dry lean soil. 30c; 3, 75c.

**Lithophragma parviflora** Woodland Star. Succession of three-fourths inch slashed stars of white in slender raceme, 4" lengthening to 12", May. Sun or shade, rich soil. Tiny tubers, 3, 35c.

**Lithospermum linearifolium** Puccoon. Glowing soft yellow ruffled trumpets, half-inch wide, May; 6 to 12". Free blooming, charming. 30c; 3, 70c.

**Macheranthera ramosa** Tansy Aster. Wonderful for massed blue effect, Sept.-Oct. 10 to 24". Easy biennial. Strong plants 15c; 3, 30c; doz. 95c.

**Malvastrum coccineum** Flame Mallow. Little Hollyhocks of salmon-scarlet in short spires; long season; 10". Foliage distinct, grayish. 30c; 3, 75c.

**Mertensia lanceolata** Prairie Bluebell. Clustered blossoms at 3", in April, as thrilling as the first bluebird; freely to late June; 10". 35c; 3, 85c.

**Mirabilis (Quamoclidion) multiflora** Perennial Four-o'clock. Large plant, to 20" high and 48" wide. Prolific bloom, June to frost, purple red of beautiful tone; leaves dark. 25c; 3, 65c.

**Nothocalais (Agoseris) cuspidata** Rich textured golden blossoms, 2" wide, April, May; ground tuft of wavy, white margined leaves. 35c; 3, 90c.

**Oenothera (Pachylophus) caespitosa** Gumbo Lily, Cowboy Lily. Great snowy, fragrant Evening Primroses upon the ground, in a patch of glossy lanceolate leaves. Day blooming, May-August. Recommended soil mixture. 35c; 3, 65c.

**Oe. (Galpinsia) lavandulaefolia** Rich yellow squarish, upright blossoms, June to frost. Open all day. Foliage grayish, total 8" or less. Of perfect bearing in any company. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

**Oe. (Meriolix) serrulata** A bushlet, to 10" or so, with an unparalleled display of inch-wide gems of bright yellow. Open all day, May-Aug. 30c; 3, 75c.

**Rare form with dollar-size blossoms, 50c each.**

**Oreocarya cana** "Birthday" Candle. Alluring new plant with many short plump columns of jewel-like white Forget-me-nots, with glinting gold eyes, upon a silvery green "cake." Spread to 10", height 5 to 7"; June. For limy scree. 60c; 3, \$1.45.

**O. glomerata** Prairie Candle. Larger white Forget-me-nots; 10 to 14" spikes, six weeks, mainly June. Beautiful but short-lived. 20c; 3, 40c.

**Orophaca:** listed under **Astragalus**.

**Oxytropis lamberti** Loco. Rich toned Pea blossoms in spectacular plumes, red purple to blue, light to dark; 12"; June. 30c; 3, 75c.

**Parosela:** syn. **Dalea**.

**Pentstemon albidus** Really beautiful spires of large white trumpets, to 14"; May, June, 20c; 3, 50c. Advise scree or much sand for all Pentstemons.

**P. angustifolius** A wonderful harmony in brilliant azure and glaucous green; June; 12". 25c; 3, 65c.

**P. aridus** An 8" or lower, rare gem from Montana, sending up many little spires of lively lavender from a dark green cushion. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

**P. crandalli** Evergreen creeper making broad mats, covered with upturned bells of blue, in June. For light shade. Clumps 50c; 3, \$1.20.

**P. eriantherus** Showy warm lavender, with prominent tongues of gold, and very lovely. June, 8 to 12". Some sticky clay and lime. 25c; 3, 60c.

**P. glaber** Fine dark blue, to 18" or more. June, July, again if cut back. Adaptable. 30c; 3, 70c.

**P. gracilis** A light and graceful smaller flowered one, amethyst in tone. 12", June, July. 30c; 3, 70c.

**P. grandiflorus** The stately Shell-leaf. Cool deep lavender and gray green; 30"; June. 35c; 3, 90c.

**P. nitidus** Deeper blue, lower, three weeks earlier than angustifolius, and indispensable. 30c; 3, 75c.

**P. secundiflorus** Broad-throated, showy, dark rosy lavender, with gray green; 15"; July. 35c; 3, 90c.

**Petalostemon purpureus** Purple Prairie Clover. Circlets of orange-dotted purple red, on deep green cones, June, July; 15". Scree or sand. 35c.

**P. villosus** Velvet Prairie Clover. Plump cones of soft silvery rose and silvery green, lovely and decorative; July-Sept.; 12". Same culture. 40c.

**Phlox alyssifolia** Bounty of soft lavender pink, inch wide, fragrant blossoms for your delight. 3 to 5"; May, June, leaves lanceolate, white edged. Slow mat former, adaptable to most any soil if well drained; luxuriates in scree with a little richness. Give half shade first summer. 30c; 3, 80c.

**P. andicola** Large blossomed white, needle leaved Phlox of the high prairies. 4"; April through June. Same culture for this and the following Phloxes as alyssifolia. 20c; 3, 55c; doz. \$2.00.

**P. andicola**, new, blue lavender, choice, 35c; 3, 75c.

**P. andicola**, extra large white, select, 50c; 3, \$1.25.

**P. hoodi** Mossy green, snowed over with lovely little blossoms, April, May. Slow spreading, finally making wide mats. 30c; 3, 75c; doz. \$2.80.



**P. longifolia** Handsome upright species, to 6"; cluster flowered, producing wide masses of mauve pink, May; leaves dark green. 50c; 3, \$1.25.

**P. scleranthifolia** White, free flowering, thrilling in wide dense mats or trailing over rocks; May. Permanent light shade. Propagated from finest forms, now first offered. 60c; 3, \$1.50.

**Phlox** "Little Cheyenne." Most perfect little blossoms imaginable, shining white with the usual speck of gold; May. Intermediate between *hoddi* and *andicola*, species undetermined. Each \$1.00.

**Potentilla divisa** Astonishing beauty in sunlit yellow from a tuft of silvered leaves; early May. Height 3", spread to 10". 50c; 3, \$1.35.

**Senecio purshianus** Plant of nice habit, displaying in June airy light gold blossoms, 8 or 9" up from a permanently gray leaf mass. 35c; 3, 75c.

**Sideranthus spinulosus** Massed light golden inch-wide Asters, September, October. Dense low type, 6"; fine textured frosty foliage. 30c; 3, 75c.

**Solidago mollis** Most attractive Goldenrod bearing roundish heads, 5 to 12"; Sept. Slow traveler. 25c.

**S. pulcherrima** (formerly listed as *trinervata*.) Same September beauty with plump tapering rods, to 16", and happy faculty of not traveling. 35c.

**Talinum parviflorum** Little Sunbright. Tuft of 2" succulent leaves, airy rosy blossoms every summer afternoon; 7". Tiny tubers, 3, 35c.

**Thalictrum venulosum** Especially good slightly bluish foliage masses, to 8", for all season effect. Bronzy bloom, to 15 or 18". 35c; 3, 70c.

**Thermopsis rhombifolia** Dwarf Golden Pea. Broad packed racemes of glowing yellow, May; 12". Unusual and beautiful. Slow colonizer. 35c; 3, 65c.

**Townsendia exscapa** Easter Daisy. Tuffet of narrow silvery evergreen leaves, incredibly wide glowing pink Daisies, all under 2" of height. Apr., May. For driest, leanest scree. 35c; 3, 85c.

**T. sericea** Even more dwarf, similar habit, greets early April with many a smile in white or delicate pink; leaves ashy green. Limy scree. 35c; 3, 85c.

**Tradescantia bracteata** Rainbow Spiderwort. Amazing variety of colors, baby-blue, purple, bright rose and intermediates. Blooms at 4" in June, continues to 10", late summer. 20c; 3, 55c; doz. \$2.00.

New large Appleblossom pink, 40c each.

**T. occidentalis** Sand Spiderwort. Shades of blue, and foliage glaucous; beautiful, long season. 20c; 3, 45c.

**Verbena bipinnatifida** Popular bright blue lilac, marvelous all season performance; low, trailing. Hardy, but avoid winter wet at crowns. Blooms by late June from seed. Pkt. 10c. Plants 30c; 3, 75c.

**Viola adunca** A happy little deep blue Violet for part shade. Often blossoms in autumn. 25c; 3, 60c.

**V. nephophylla** Lovely big blue that likes much moisture through flowering time. 35c; 3, 85c.

**V. nuttalli** Brilliant golden Violet of the dry open plains. Heavy producer, April through May; 3 to 7"; sun or light shade. 30c; 3, 50c; doz. \$1.80.

**V. rugulosa** White with violet pencilings; 6 to 12". Slow spreading groundcover, part shade, 30c; 3, 75c.

**FOR GARDENS IN HALF SHADE** and moderately rich soil, well drained, are: *Agastache anethiodora*, *Allium cernuum*, *Anemone patens*, *Antennarias aprica*, *campestris* and *microphylla*, *Asters meritus*, *nebraskensis*, *ptarmicoides* and *salicifolius*, *Campanula petiolata*, *Cerastium strictum*, *Clematis tenuiloba*, *Delphinium bicolor*, *Dodecatheon pauciflorum*, *Fritillaria atropurpurea*, *Liatris ligulistylis*, *Lithophragma parviflora*, *Pentstemon gracilis*, *Phloxes alyssifolia*, *hoodi* and *scleranthifolia*, *Thalictrum venulosum* and, excepting *nuttali*, all the Violets. Much sun, however, with reasonable moisture is equally agreeable to these shade tolerant kinds.

### BULBS FOR FALL PLANTING

**Allium cernuum** Nodding Onion. Umbels of light shell pink, July; to 16". 3, 25c; doz. 65c.

**A. textile** Broad upright umbels of green-ribbed white stars, at 8"; May. Dormant in summer. Alliums may be moved in spring. Doz. 35c.

**Calochortus gunnisoni** Gunnison Mariposa. Very lovely white chalice with clusters of greenish hairs, July; 16". Grassy leaves. Doz. \$1.00; 100, \$7.50.

**C. macrocarpus** Sagebrush Mariposa. Long petaled blossoms of lilac, yellow patched, sometimes purple marked; wonderful. July, 18". 3, 40c; doz. \$1.20.

**C. nuttalli** Sego Lily, Mariposa Tulip. Brilliant white with gold and maroon markings; June, 12". Slender glaucous leaves. Doz. 85c; 100, \$6.50.

**Fritillaria atropurpurea** Bronze Fritillary. Nearly 2", open, half-nodding, "slightly fantastic" flowers, mottled purple on yellowish ground; May. 8 to 12"; dark glaucous foliage. 20c; doz. \$1.50.

**Zygadenus gramineus** False Camas. Massed creamy stars in a haze of golden stamens. Erect spires, 8 to 16", June. Grassy leaves. 3, 20c; doz. 60c.

### COLD CLIMATE CACTI

Scree or other dry rocky footing is a requisite of the "ball" species, and agreeable to all. With assured drainage some humus may be used. A very successful grower uses 1 part heavy dark loam to 9 parts bank gravel for all sorts, and secures lavish bloom.

**Coryphantha (Mamillaria) vivipara** Ball, to 3" or more; showy carmine flowers, June. 30c; 3, 75c.

**Echinocereus viridiflorus** Ball to cylindric, 2 to rarely 4" tall. Glossy yellow blossoms, bright colored spines. June. 25c; 3, 60c.

**Opuntia fragilis** Brittle Cactus, a pygmy Prickly Pear. Surprisingly large yellow flowers, centered red, June. Free blooming strain. 25c; 3, 60c.

Rare form with circular sections, pleasing compact habit, and free blooming. 35c; 3, 90c.

**O. imbricata (arborescens)** Tree Cactus. Unfailing attraction, blossoms of purple carmine, July. Grows 2 to 6" yearly. 25c; 3, 60c; larger, 50c each.

**O. polyacantha** Many-spined Prickly Pear. 4" or larger sections; 4" silken yellow blooms. 25c; 3, 60c.

**O. rhodantha** Like polyacantha but blossoms are a gorgeous carmine-rose; June. 35c; 3, 90c.

**O. humifusa** Sections often 5 to 6", spines fewer; largest of silken yellow flowers, red filaments; late June. Ripe "pears" dark red, edible. 25c; 3, 60c.